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CLAIMS:

1. A ballistic protection apparatus comprising:
a garment made of ballistic material including a peripheral edge and
configured to be received on the body of a person; and
5 a reinforcing member secured proximate to the peripheral edge of the
garment and configured to provide roll protection to the peripheral edge of the
garment in response to impact from a projectile.
2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the reinforcing member has a
stiffness greater than a stiffness of the garment.
- 10 3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the reinforcing member comprises a
reinforcing cord extending substantially continuously along the peripheral edge.
4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the reinforcing member has a
modulus of elasticity greater than a modulus of elasticity of the garment.
5. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the thickness of the reinforcing
15 member is greater than the thickness of the garment.
6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the garment comprises one of a
ballistic belt and a ballistic vest.
7. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an outer cover
substantially surrounding the garment and the reinforcing member.
- 20 8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the garment is formed of poly-
paraphenylene terephthalamide.
9. A ballistic article comprising:
a flexible armor member including a peripheral edge; and
a reinforcing member located proximate the peripheral edge and
25 configured to provide roll protection to the peripheral edge of the flexible armor
member in response to impact from a projectile.
10. The ballistic article of claim 9, wherein the flexible armor member is
one of a vehicle armor, a vessel armor, an aircraft armor, a ballistic shield, a ballistic
garment, and an explosive blast mat.
- 30 11. The ballistic article of claim 9, wherein the reinforcing member
comprises a body having a stiffness greater than a stiffness of the armor member.

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12. The ballistic article of claim 11, wherein the reinforcing member comprises a reinforcing cord extending substantially continuously along the peripheral edge.

5 13. The ballistic article of claim 11, wherein the reinforcing member has a modulus of elasticity greater than a modulus of elasticity of the armor member.

14. The ballistic article of claim 11, wherein the thickness of the reinforcing member is greater than the thickness of the armor member.

15. A ballistic belt comprising:
a central portion of ballistic material having a first stiffness; and
10 upper and lower edge portions of ballistic material having a second stiffness and coupled to the central portion, the second stiffness being greater than the first stiffness.

16. The ballistic belt of claim 15, wherein the upper and lower edge portions each comprises a body secured to the central portion.

15 17. The ballistic belt of claim 15, wherein the upper and lower edge portions each have a modulus of elasticity greater than a modulus of elasticity of the central portion.

18. The ballistic belt of claim 15, wherein the thickness of each of the upper and lower edge portions is greater than the thickness of the central portion.

20 19. The ballistic belt of claim 15, further comprising a protective cover substantially surrounding the central portion and the upper and lower edge portions.

20. The ballistic belt of claim 15, further comprising a releasable fastener supported by the central portion and configured to operably couple with a garment to releasably secure the ballistic belt to a garment.

25 21. A ballistic belt comprising:
a central portion of ballistic material;
upper and lower edge portions coupled to the central portion; and
an outer cover substantially surrounding the central portion and the upper and lower edge portions.

30 22. The ballistic belt of claim 21, wherein the outer cover defines a seam on a rear side of the ballistic belt.

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23. The ballistic belt of claim 21, further comprising a releasable fastener supported by the outer cover and configured to operably couple with a garment to releasably secure the ballistic belt to the garment.

5 24. The ballistic belt of claim 21, wherein the central portion has a first stiffness, and the upper and lower edge portions have a second stiffness, the second stiffness being greater than the first stiffness.

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